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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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March 1965

FROM :

TO :

SUBJECT: Request for a Possible Transfer to New York.

I herewith request a possible transfer for permanent duty to New York.

I am willing to accept and to do any work which the Agency needs to be done there, if it fits my ~~age~~^{age} and knowledge, and experiences. I am also willing to go from there on ~~often but not too long~~ TDY trips to all parts of the United States and abroad.

Although I like my present ^{position} ~~work~~ in Washington and the people with whom I ~~have to co-operate in it~~, I find that it would be in my interests, and in the interests of the Agency as well, that I be given a suitable job in New York. There I would be relieved from the worries which I have because of my too long separation from my wife, especially now that our youngest son was called into military service and my wife remained in New York quite alone, overburdened with too many tasks. When working there, I would be able to help her on the evenings in different ways, and this knowledge of this would allow me to concentrate on my primary work still better than I am able to do it now here, in Washington.

I hope that during the more than 14 years of service with the Agency in different fields of activity, I have given satisfactory proof of my reliability and securitymindedness. I also hope that the Work Performance and Time Records of my recent TDY in Bangkok showed my superiors that I am still able and willing to carry hard jobs and to work long hours through rather long periods of time. The high balance of my unused sick leave shows that I am still in good health.

Having all this in mind, I hope that I may take the sometimes heard assertions of my superiors, that I am still an asset for the Agency, for their face value, and therefore, I am sure that I could be of good use to the Agency in New York for many years.

What kind of work I could do in New York or on TDY assignments?

11. Different kinds of intelligence research work in which I have long experience, starting with my work in the Estonian J2, then with the "I.G.Farbenindustrie" in Berlin and later with the German Mil.Intelligence units during WW2, and also as an additional job when working on different projects in the Agency.
2. Translations from Russian, German and Estonian, if necessary also from French, Finnish and Polish, including translations of technical writings.
3. Different jobs in connection with Agency's interests towards the Estonian organizations in the USA and in the Free World.
4. Interviews, elicitations, and interrogations in Russian, German and Estonian, of defectors and/or visitors from behind the Iron Curtain and the Satellite states.
5. Contacting of different people in whom the Agency is interested. During my work in the Estonian J2 I got well along with the military and other dignitaries of many countries. As a proof of the ability to create good rapport I can mention different foreign decorations (Finnish, Swedish, Latvian, Polish, German, Italiana and Roumanian) and photographs with dedications (American and Japanese) which I received during the period of 1936-1939.
66. Participation in training of contact people. I have worked in this field in New York for a short period in 1960/61 when on loan from Washington, posing as a "visitor from the Soviet Union".
7. Any kind of other anti-communist work.

Explanation to my Request for Transfer.

Since 1951 when I joined the Agency, I have been living most of the last 14 years separately from my family, being able to join the family only during the short periods of leave and when taking expensive weekend journeys from Washington to New York. Every married person understands that this is not a normal situation, and that it takes two truly devoted people to endure such life without wrecking the family. Fortunately, my wife understands that this kind of work requires sometimes such separation, she had learned this during my work in the Estonian J2 and during WW2. Therefore, she agreed with our further "temporary" separation when I was offered to join the Agency.

This was in Germany. My work called me to Munich whereas the family had to remain near Hamburg, waiting for emigration to the United States, where they arrived in January 1952.

When I was finally transferred from Germany to the United States, in February 1953, then I was again explained that I had to leave the family in New York because this would be in the interest of my work which was foreseen on different places (safehouses) in the Washington area.

By 1957, when our younger son had finished ^{the} high school in New York, the conditions of my work had changed so that there were no objections from my superiors to ^{the} move of my family to Washington. My salary in the United States has never been enough to support my family. Therefore, my wife has worked ~~here~~ since her arrival here. Although we knew how difficult it would be for her to find a job in Washington, she agreed with the transfer of the family in anticipation of a reasonable raise ⁱⁿ of my salary, which I was hinted being forthcoming. Our son applied for admission and was admitted to the Catholic University. I started the hunt for an apartment. Then came the bad news that I shall not get any essential raise ~~of~~ pay. Instead of this I was told that I had been foolish to start working with the Agency on a too low salary, I should have asked, and I could have received a higher starting salary, whereas later any essential raise were impossible.

My request for permission to take an additional part-time job outside the Agency was denied.

In these circumstances the plans of transfer of the family had to be dropped, I had no resources to cover the additional expenses of life in Washington which would have amounted approximately to \$ 2,000 per year (high rent and college tuition fees). In New York my family had at this time a small, one-bedroom apartment for a rather reasonable rent, and the tuition in the municipal colleges of New York was free.

Thus, our separation continued, and My wife followed me over the 50-year line. We had to start thinking of the time when we will reach the retirement age. Although living thriftily, ~~both working~~, our savings were very small because my separate life and biweekly trips between Washington and New York took a lot of money.

The present employment of my wife entitles her for a small pension from the employer's private pension fund. She likes her job. Her superiors are fully satisfied with her work. Thus, she expects to stay there up to the age of retirement. My employment with the Agency does not bring me any pension, nor is there any assurance that the employment would last longer than ^{any} the current one-year contract. Thus, we had to plan our old age, ^{essentially} on the Social Security payments only. Everybody knows that those payments are not enough to live from if one does not have at least ^{any} own place to live in, and no savings from ^{the} earlier years. We had nothing besides our health, knowledge, will and the children when we arrived to the United States. In this situation we decided to look for a two-family house in New York, in good hope that our little American savings would reach for the downpayment, that we would be able to pay the mortgage so long we both have regular income. We found such a house in 1964. My family lives in one of the two apartments, ^{of this house} and the rent for the other apartment helps us to pay the taxes.

Until recently our younger son lived together with my wife and helped her in the maintenance and repair jobs of the house,

in addition to the little help I could give during ^{the} my weekends and leaves. Now, that ^{this} our ~~younger~~ son was also called to the military service, the older-one is in the Army since 1958, my wife remained quite alone from our family in New York. Although she is an able and industrious person, she needs me now to help with the current maintenance jobs connected with the house. My weekend trips and the ~~leave~~ annual leave does not provide enough time for these jobs. Besides, these ^{journeys} journeys, together with the augmented costs of my separate life in Washington, do eat up a much too high percentage of my salary, good money which we badly need to pay off some of the mortgage. When in earlier years my biweekly trips and the rent for a small room in Washington costed me approximately \$ 750 per year or about 9.8% of my salary, then now these costs amount up to \$ 1350 per year, or about 15.1% of my salary.

This increase results from three factors:

- 1) I must go now every weekend instead of every second weekend.
- 2) The rents of the rooms in Washington have risen 50%.
- 3) I have had no rise of salary since February 1960, the only changes in my pay checks during the last five years being but the results of the pay adjustments made in connection to such adjustments in the pay of the government employees.

(+) I have never worked for the money only. I have taken my work like a continuation of the work which I started as an officer in the Estonian Army, as a part of my duty in the general anti-communist struggle. Therefore I have never asked for severance pay, nor did I bargain when I started the work with the Agency. However, now I think that some relieve should be due, and the best in today's circumstances would be if I could be given a job in New York.

(+) The real costs of my separate life ^{are} ~~is~~, of course, much higher than these figures and percentages because they do not include the difference of cost of joint and separate alimentation, which is rather high.